



United States Department of State

*Washington, D.C. 20520*

SEP 08 2010

Dear Senator Johanns:

Thank you for your letter of July 23 regarding the Keystone XL Pipeline Project. We recognize that this is an issue of significant importance to you and your constituents, and we regret the delay in responding to your inquiry.

The Department has a strong commitment to the environment and our nation's energy security and is committed to ensuring that decisions related to this project are fully informed by the views expressed by the public and other U.S. government agencies. In regards to your six questions, let me assure you that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has provided input to the Department of State in multiple ways during the environmental review: during the scoping process, during an interagency comment period on the preliminary draft Environmental Impact Statement (PDEIS), and through input provided by EPA's regional offices. The PDEIS was shaped by EPA's scoping comments, and EPA's comments on the PDEIS (submitted in September 2009) were considered as input into the DEIS. We are now consulting closely with EPA on the additional comments contained in its July 16 letter in considering revisions to the DEIS.

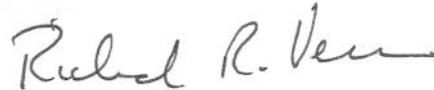
The Department uses the Council of Environmental Quality's Implementing Regulations to define cooperating agencies as those federal agencies that have jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved in a proposal. A complete list of agencies that provided input to the development of the DEIS is enclosed.

The Honorable  
Mike O. Johanns,  
United States Senate.

- 2 -

We hope this information is helpful to you. We will consider your letter part of the Administrative Record for the EIS. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance on this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard R. Verma". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Richard" and last name "Verma" clearly distinguishable.

Richard R. Verma  
Assistant Secretary  
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure: As stated.